The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims

in the application:

Please cancel claims 20, 21 and 24 without prejudice or disclaimer of the

subject matter contained therein.

Please amend the claims as followed:

1. (Amended) Filler device, comprising a filler neck and a closing cap

closing a filler opening at the filler neck, which said closing cap has a cap bottom,

a surrounding cap wall originating from the cap bottom, and a centering element

arranged in an interior on the closing cap, said centering element interacting

with a countercentering element situated on the filler neck,

wherein the countercentering element is situated at a radial distance with

respect to an interior pipe surface of the filler neck and within an end section of

the filler neck in an area of the filler opening,

wherein a surrounding sealing device is situated on the interior side of

the closing cap in a transition area between the bottom and the wall,

wherein the inside diameter of the closing cap is larger than the outside

diameter of the filler neck, and

wherein, when the closing cap is fitted on, the sealing device comes to rest

on the exterior pipe surface of the filler neck.

Page 2 of 11

Serial No. 10/619,602 Amendment Dated: March 22, 2005 Reply to Office Action

- (Original) Filler device according to claim 1, wherein the filler device is adapted to communicate oil to an engine.
- 3. (Original) Filler device according to claim 1, wherein the centering element is constructed as a first pipe piece with a circular cross-section and the countercentering element is constructed as a second pipe piece with a circular cross-section, the centering element and the countercentering element being situated concentrically in one another when the closing cap is fitted onto the filler neck.
- 4. (Original) Filler device according to claim 3, wherein an outside diameter of the first pipe piece for the centering is correspondingly smaller than an inside diameter of the second pipe piece.
- 5. (Original) Filler device according to claim 1, wherein the centering element is constructed in one piece with the closing cap.
- 6. (Original) Filler device according to claim 3, wherein the centering element is constructed in one piece with the closing cap.
- 7. (Original) Filler device according to claim 1, wherein the countercentering element is supported by way of at least one web with respect to the interior pipe surface at the radical distance.

Serial No. 10/619,602 Amendment Dated: March 22, 2005 Reply to Office Action

- 8. (Original) Filler device according to claim 3, wherein the countercentering element is supported by way of at least one web with respect to the interior pipe surface at the radical distance.
- 9. (Original) Filler device according to claim 1, wherein the countercentering element is constructed in one piece with the filler neck.
- 10. (Original) Filler device according to claim 7, wherein the countercentering element and the web are constructed in one piece with the filler neck.
- 11. (Amended) Filler device according to claim 5, wherein the countercentering element is constructed in one piece with the filler neck.
- 12. (Amended) Filler device according to claim 3, wherein the countercentering element (is constructed in one piece with the filler neck.
- 13. (Original) Filler device according to claim 1, wherein the countercentering element is constructed as an insert for the filler neck.
- 14. (Original) Filler device according to claim 7, wherein the countercentering element and the web are constructed as an insert for the filler neck.

- 15. (Original) Filler device according to claim 1, wherein, at the end section having the filler opening, the filler neck, viewed from the filler opening, has a right-angle bend, an angle or a curve, or tapers.
- 16. (Original) Filler device according to claims 1, wherein the axial length of the centering element is identical to or greater than the axial length of the end section.
- 17. (Original) Filler device according to claims 3, wherein the axial length of the centering element is identical to or greater than the axial length of the end section.
- 18. (Original) Filler device according to claims 7, wherein the axial length of the centering element is identical to or greater than the axial length of the end section.
- 19. (Original) Filler device according to claim 3, wherein the second pipe piece is arranged coaxially within the filler neck.
  - 20. (Cancelled).
  - 21. (Cancelled).
- 22. (Original) Filler device according to claim 1, wherein the closing cap is secured on the filler neck in a manner of a screw cap or a bayonet cap.

Serial No. 10/619,602

Amendment Dated: March 22, 2005

Reply to Office Action

23. (Amended) A method of using a filler device comprising utilizing the filler device of claim 1 to communicate oil to an engine.

- 24. (Cancelled).
- 25. (Amended) An oil filler assembly for an engine, comprising:
  a pipe connectable to an oil inlet of the engine, said pipe having an opening,

a cap being adapted to close and seal the opening and having a cap base surrounded by a cap wall and a centering element arranged inside the cap, and

a countercentering element being arranged at a radial distance from an interior surface of the pipe and at an end of the pipe adjacent the opening, the centering element and countercentering element being adapted to interface with one another,

wherein a surrounding sealing device is situated on the interior side of the closing cap in a transition area between the bottom and the wall,

wherein the inside diameter of the closing cap is larger than the outside diameter of the filler neck, and

wherein, when the closing cap is fitted on, the sealing device comes to rest on the exterior pipe surface of the filler neck.

26. (New) Filler device according to claim 1, wherein said filler neck has a conically tapering flange surrounding said filler opening, and

Serial No. 10/619,602 Amendment Dated: March 22, 2005 Reply to Office Action

wherein said sealing device is a sealing ring which sealingly rests on the flange when the cap is in a position closing said opening.

27. (New) A method of making the filler device of claim 1, comprising:
forming the cap as a one piece plastic part, and
forming the filler neck and countercentering element as a one piece plastic

28. (New) A method making the filler device of claim 1, comprising: forming the filler neck as a first plastic part,

forming the countercentering element as one piece with radially extending webs and,

gluing the webs to the filler neck.

part.